

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/803,293	<b>Applicant(s)</b> VENKATARAMANI ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Louis J. Casaregola	<b>Art Unit</b> 3746	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**  
**Period for Reply**

**A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.**

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-35 is/are pending in the application.  
     4a) Of the above claim(s) 30-34 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 35-36 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
     a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.  |

### ***Election***

In their response of 5/12/06, applicants elect the species comprising the engine of Figure 1 along with the detonation passage of Figure 9, and they list claims 1-19, 22-29 and 35 as readable on the elected species. The election was made with traverse because claim 1 is generic, but the mere presence of a generic claim is not a proper basis for traverse. Furthermore, applicants have not explicitly elected one of the designated apparatus and method claim groups, but since all listed claims are apparatus claims, the apparatus group is considered to be constructively elected. An action on the merits of elected claims 1-19, 22-29, and 35 is presented below. (Note that non-elected species claims 20, 21 and 36 are also including in this action because, as indicated below, generic claim 1 has been found to be allowable.)

### ***Objections To Claims***

Claim 35 and 36 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(a) for the following reason:

In claim 35, lines 19-20, and claim 36, lines 18-19, "said longitudinal centerline axis" lacks proper antecedent basis. This language apparently refers to engine axis 12, but this axis was not previously introduced into the claims. It is suggested that the cited language be replaced with "an engine longitudinal centerline axis".

***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 1-29 are allowed, and claims 35 and 36 will be allowed if amended to overcome the § 1.75(a) objection above. Allowance of this application is further contingent upon cancellation of non-elected method claims 30-34.



L. J. Casaregola  
571-272-4826 (M-F; 7:30-4:00)  
571-273-8300 FAX  
May 16, 2006

If repeated attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the art unit supervisor, Timothy Thorpe, can be reached at 571-272-4444.

Information regarding the status of this application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR, and status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).